

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/601,360

Examiner

Prasad R Akkapeddi

Applicant(s)

MURADE, MASAO

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/16/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 14, 21, 23, 24 and 28-40.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 December 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 12/16/2003, with respect to claims 1-9, 14, 21, 23, 24 and 28-31 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of 09/16/2003 has been withdrawn, due to the submission of the translation of the foreign priority document.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-9, 14, 21, 23, 24 and 28-40 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A search of the prior art did not disclose an electro-optical device and a method of fabricating such a device comprising a combination of structural elements, more specifically:

(a) A first storage capacitor electrode and a second storage capacitor electrode comprising a conductive film of a gate electrode of the thin-film transistor.

(b) A light shielding first conductive layer electrically connected between the semiconductor layer and the pixel electrode.

(c) A second conductive layer comprising a film of the first conductive layer as a storage capacitor line, at least partially overlapping the data lines in a plan view, and electrically connected to the second storage capacitor electrode.

(d) A light shielding conductive layer, as a storage capacitor line, electrically connected to the second storage capacitor electrode.

As can be seen from Fig. 3 of the cited art by Sato (though discounted as a prior art due to the submission of the translation document), and a previous disclosure by the same inventors i.e., Sato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,485), the light shield layer (4p) has an electrode (12B) in between the semiconductor layer (10) and the pixel electrode (8). Thus Sato does not teach the recited limitation in the instant claims 'a light shielding first conductive layer (80a) electrically connected between the semiconductor layer (11a') and the pixel electrode (9a)'.

In addition Sato does not teach two storage capacitors, instead discloses only one storage capacitor (13).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prasad R Akkapeddi whose telephone number is 571-272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM to 5:30PM M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on 571-272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2871

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BRA

Prasad R Akkapeddi, Ph.D
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

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EXAMINER
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